

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTO 01768 01 OF 02 060733Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
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R 052045Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4096
INFO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 SANTO DOMINGO 1768

EO 11652 NA
TAGS: PINT, DR
SUB: AMBASSADOR HURWITCH'S SPEECH AT FOREIGN OFFICE
FAREWELL DINNER

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE ENGLISH TEXT OF THE SPEECH DELIVERED
IN SPANISH BY AMBASSADOR HURWITCH AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE FAREWELL
DINNER ON APRIL 4::

QUOTE: YOUR EXCELLENCY, ADMIRAL RAMON EMILIO JIMENEZ,
HIJO, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS; SRA. DE
JIMENEZ; YOUR EXCELLENCY, MONSEÑOR GIOVANNI GRAVELLI,
PAPAL NUNCIO; YOUR EXCELLENCIES,
CHIEFS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS; LADIES AND GENTLEMEN-
FRIENDS, ALL.

AS I LOOK BACK ON THE FOUR AND ONE-HALF YEARS THAT
I HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF SERVING AS THE UNITED STATES
AMBASSADOR TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, I CAN SAY VERY
SINCERELY THAT IT HAS BEEN A PERIOD OF PROFESSIONAL
SATISFACTION AND PERSONAL HAPPINESS. I LEAVE WITH THE
SENSE THAT UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES
HAS DEEPEDED AND THAT CONTACT BETWEEN THE AMERICAN
EMBASSY AND DOMINICANS OF ALL WALKS OF LIFE,
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PAGE 02 SANTO 01768 01 OF 02 060733Z

IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR POLITICAL CONVICTIONS, HAS
BECOME MORE EXTENSIVE. ON THE PERSONAL SIDE, THANKS
TO THE WARM HOSPITALITY OF THE DOMINICAN PEOPLE, WE
HAVE BEEN VERY FORTUNATE IN RECEIVING THE FRIENDSHIP
AND AFFECTION OF MANY DOMINICANS. WE SHALL LOOK UPON
OUR STAY IN THIS LOVELY COUNTRY, THE COUNTRY THAT
COLUMBUS LOVED BEST, WITH NOSTALGIA, AFFECTION AND

APPRECIATION FOR ALL THAT HAS BEEN DONE TO MAKE OUR MISSION HERE SO PLEASANT AND SATISFYING.

DURING MY LONG CAREER AS A DIPLOMAT, I HAVE NEVER BELIEVED THAT DIPLOMACY SHOULD BE LIMITED TO GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONS. GOVERNMENTS CHANGE, AMBASSADORS ARE TRANSFERRED- BUT THE PEOPLES OF BOTH COUNTRIES REMAIN. I HAVE, THEREFORE, SOUGHT TO REPRESENT WITHIN MY MODEST CAPACITIES NOT ONLY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND ITS POLICIES BUT ALSO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. AND SIMILARLY, I HAVE NOT BEEN CONTENT TO LIMIT MY CONTACT TO DOMINICAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND THEIR VIEWS BUT RATHER HAVE TRIED TO UNDERSTAND THE DOMINICAN PEOPLE AND INTERPRET THEIR HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS TO MY GOVERNMENT AND ITS PEOPLE. FOR THIS REASON, I HAVE TRAVELED WIDELY THROUGHOUT THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND, THANKS TO THE OPENNESS OF THE DOMINICAN PEOPLE, I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GAIN INSIGHTS INTO THEIR DYNAMIC CHARACTER AND THEIR MANY VIRTUES. EXCELLENCY, YOURS IS A LOVELY COUNTRY OF CONSIDERABLE POTENTIAL, BOTH IN NATIONAL RESOURCES AND IN HUMAN CAPITAL. I HAVE FAITH IN THE DESTINY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND ITS PEOPLE.

IT HAS SEEMED TO ME THAT WE, UNITED STATES DIPLOMATS, COULD LEARN MUCH FROM THE DIPLOMACY OF OTHER COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY WHEN
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PAGE 03 SANTO 01768 01 OF 02 060733Z

EMPHASIS IS PLACED UPON THE COMMON SPIRITUAL BONDS THAT TIE US TOGETHER AS HUMAN BEINGS IRRESPECTIVE OF OUR DIFFERING NATIONALITIES AND CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS. THE ARTS AND SPORTS ARE TWO SUCH AREAS WHICH OFFER SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR INCREASED INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING. FOR THESE REASONS, I HAVE DEDICATED A GREAT DEAL OF MY PERSONAL TIME TO THESE AREAS. SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS, BALLET GROUPS, INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS, AND SPORTS GROUPS HAVE ALL BEEN OCCASIONS TO REMIND OURSELVES THAT WHATEVER MAY BE OUR DIFFERENCES, WE AS HUMAN BEINGS HAVE A GREAT DEAL IN COMMON. OF THE MANY ENDEAVORS THE US EMBASSY HAS UNDERTAKEN DURING THE PAST FOUR YEARS, I TAKE PERHAPS GREATEST SATISFACTION IN THIS IDENTIFICATION WITH THESE SPIRITUAL VALUES.

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC HAVE BEEN TRADITIONALLY CLOSE. BUT WE BELIEVE IT APPROPRIATE TO MAINTAIN A POLICY OF NOT INTERVENING IN THIS COUNTRY'S INTERNAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS. WE HAVE BEEN PRIVILEGED TO BE ABLE TO COUNT AMONG OUR FRIENDS POLITICAL LEADERS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND OF THE OPPOSITION PARTIES AND HAVE BEEN HONORED BY THEIR PRESENCE IN OUR HOME ON SOCIAL OCCASIONS. NEVERTHELESS, AS I AND OTHER US OFFICIALS HAVE STATED PUBLICLY, WE ARE NEUTRAL IN THE CURRENT POLITICAL

CAMPAIGN. THE US GOVERNMENT WILL RESPECT THE PREFERENCE, FREELY CHOSEN, OF THE SOVEREIGN PEOPLE OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. OUR BASIC CONCERN IS THAT THE ELECTIONS BE FREE AND FAIR.

AS YOU KNOW, THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER HAS PLACED HIGH PRIORITY, BOTH IN DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY, ON OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THERE IS A GROWING INTERESNT WITHIN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS, IN DEVELOPMENTS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, AS IN OTHER COUNTRIES, CONCERNING THESE RIGHTS. THIS ENCOMPASSES THE INDIVIDUAL'S RIGHTS AS A HUMAN BEING, HIS CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, AND THE SATISFACTION OF HIS BASIC MATERIAL NEEDS. IN THE LAST REGARD, US AID PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN FOCUSED ON HELPING THE POOREST GROUPS. HERE IN THE DOMINICAN UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 04 SANTO 01768 01 OF 02 060733Z

REPUBLIC, WE HAVE PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO RAISE LIVING STANDARDS OF THE MOST DISADVANTAGED GROUPS, ESPECIALLY IN RURAL AREAS.

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PAGE 01 SANTO 01768 02 OF 02 060734Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 SANTO DOMINGO 1768

IT IS A TRUISM THAT THE WORLD IS BECOMING SMALLER THROUGH IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS AND FASTER MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION. WHAT DOES NOT SEEM ALWAYS SO EVIDENT IS THE INCREASING INTERDEPENDENCE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. LARGE AND SMALL NATIONS ARE TODAY LINKED IN MANY WAYS; GONE FOREVER ARE THE DAYS WHEN ONE MIGHTY NATION COULD FEEL SECURE WITHOUT REFERENCE TO SMALLER NATIONS. TODAY, THAT ELUSIVE GOAL, PEACE FOR ALL, THAT WE ALL SEEK SO EARNESTLY,

DEPENDS MORE THAN EVER UPON TRUST AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AMONG ALL OF THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD. ENDURING ECONOMIC WELL-BEING ALSO CAN ONLY BE THE RESULT OF THE RECOGNITION OF OUR INTERDEPENDENCE. JUST AS WITHIN ANY COUNTRY, OPULENCE AND MISERY CANNOT PERMANENTLY EXIST SIDE-BY-SEIDE, WEALTHY AND POWERFUL NATIONS MUST EQUALLY REALIZE THAT THEIR WELL-BEING AND ULTIMATE SECURITY DEPEND UPON A WORLD OF NATIONS WHOSE JUST ASPIRATIONS FOR PROSPERITY AND TRANQUILITY ARE ALSO MET.

AS WE TAKE LEAVE OF OUR MANY FRIENDS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WE LEAVE ONLY OUR SPIRITS AND OUR HEARTS WITH YOU, NOTHING MATERIAL, FOR WE HAVE NEVER OWNED PROPERTY OF ANY KIND IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. HOWEVER, WE DO LEAVE AND ENTRUST TO YOU PART OF OUR FAMILY. WE TAKE WITH US TO OUR HOMELAND THE AFFECTION AND FRIENDSHIP OF MANY, AS WELL AS INNUMERABLE AND UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES OF HAPPY TIMES.

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PAGE 02 SANTO 01768 02 OF 02 060734Z

THIS TRAY WHICH YOUR GOVERNMENT, EXCELLENCY, HAS SO GENEROUSLY SEEN FIT TO HONOR MRS HURWITCH AND ME WITH SYMBOLIZES FOR US, AND WILL ALWAYS REMAIN WITH US, TESTIMONY OF OUR PERSONAL FRIENDSHIPS, AS WELL AS THE CLOSE AND CORDIAL RELATIONS THAT HAVE HAPPILY EXISTED BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS AND PEOPLES DURING THE FOUR YEARS OF OUR SERVICE IN YOUR VERY HOSPITABLE COUNTRY. WE SHALL TREASURE IT AS SUCH.

WE WISH TO THANK ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR VERY MANY KINDNESSES TOWARD US FOR HAVING MADE THIS FAREWELL SO MEMORABLE.

IN CLOSING, I TAKE THIS OCCASION, EXCELLENCY, TO EXPRESS OUR BEST WISHES FOR THE CONTINUED HARMONY AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, FOR THE PROGRESS AND FUTURE OF EACH OF THE NATIONS SO ABLY REPRESENTED BY OUR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS, FOR THE WELL-BEING AND PROSPERITY OF THE DOMINICAN PEOPLE, FOR YOUR PERSONAL FUTURE AND THAT OF YOUR LOVELY WIFE, FOR THE GOOD HEALTH AND LONG LIFE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, DR JOAQUIN BALAGUER, AND ABOVE ALL FOR A TRANQUIL WORLD WHERE ALL OF US AND OUR CHILDREN MAY LIVE IN PEACE. THANK YOU. END QUOTE.

2. COMMENT. LISTIN DIARIO CARRIED FULL TEXT OF AMBASSADOR'S SPEECH. EL CARIBE FRONT PAGED ITS REPORT ON SPEECH, ABOVE-FOLD, LEADING WITH AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENT THAT USG WILL RESPECT THE SOVEREIGN DECISION OF THE DOMINICAN PEOPLE IN MAY 16 ELECTION AND IS CONCERNED ONLY THAT THE ELECTIONS BE FAIR AND FREE. AXELROD

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